

كشافة امس، لاصول

World
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Amman

Embassy drama ends

AMMAN, May 21 (R)—The Venezuelan ambassador today held inside the Venezuelan embassy here by rebels escaped today after a heated argument inside the embassy. Ambassador Santiago Ochoa Antich and some staff escaped first through a door forced open by rebels. They left Military Attache Lt. Col. Witermundo and Second Secretary Marcos Castellanos in the embassy. After the ambassador and the others were locked in the embassy, the second secretary locked the door and the military attache warned the rebels he would force the door open if they did not leave. Witermundo told reporters he received a pistol and a basket of food sent into the embassy.

Number 1061

Begin's cabinet begins autonomy plan

JERUSALEM, May 21 (R)—Israel today named a team of ministers with Egypt on self-rule for West Bank under the peace treaty between the two. Defence Minister Ezer Weizman withdrew from an earlier team because of proposals for the negotiations drawn by Minister Menachem Begin.

Begin adopted Mr. Begin's original 22 clauses were pruned to 20. Government spokesman Arvi Naor said most of the 20 clauses were adopted unanimously. Two were passed by a majority of 11 to four.

Cabinet sources said Mr. Weizman and Mr. Dayan were joined in these votes by Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin and Labour and Social Welfare Minister Israel Katz.

The plan is accompanied by two formal government statements. One states that Israel will "for ever oppose the establishment of an independent Palestine state" on the West Bank.

The second statement, according to the sources, said that after the interim five-year period of West Bank autonomy, Israel would claim sovereignty over the region.

Under the Camp David agreements, the autonomy period should be followed by negotiations to establish the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Egypt and the United States both say, that this should lead to a loosening of Israel's ties.

The sources said the cabinet accepted suggestions by Mr. Dayan to amend the wording of one of the major clauses to which he and Mr. Weizman had objected. This concerned the source of the powers of administration devolving on the local autonomy body to be elected by West Bank representatives.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الراي"

AMMAN, TUESDAY MAY 22, 1979 — JAMADI AL THANI 24, 1399

COMING THURSDAY, MAY 24...

Jordan Times 24-page colour supplement for Independence & Army Day 1979. Be sure to get your copy, free, with Thursday's Jordan Times.

Jordan Times



Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.



The U.N. Security Council commission investigating Israeli settlement policy meets with Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim. The fact-finding team will be in Jordan for five days before going to Damascus, Beirut and Cairo.

From West Bank eyewitnesses U.N. team hears facts of Israeli settlement

AMMAN, May 21 (J.T.) — The U.N. commission investigating Israeli settlement policy in occupied Arab territories met here for over two hours in a closed session tonight to hear testimony from five West Bank Palestinians. The commission arrived in Amman yesterday.

Composed of representatives from Portugal, Bolivia and Zambia, the commission was set up by the U.N. Security Council in March to examine the Israeli settlement of Arab territory occupied since the 1967 war.

The commission also met today with Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim and

Affairs Hassan Ibrahim and Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh.

Meeting at the Ambassador hotel tonight, the commission heard four Palestinian men and one woman describe their experiences living under Israeli occupation. They also described Israel's settlement activity in the West Bank including measures taken against Arab residents.

Three of the West Bank representatives remained anonymous to the commission. The head of the commission, Mr. Leonard Mathias from Portugal, said some of the witnesses came directly from the West Bank to Amman to testify before the commission. The names of the other two Palestinians were given to the commission but were unavailable to the press.

Israel has refused to cooperate with the fact-finding mission and won't allow it into the West Bank. So the commission is resolved to hear eyewitness testimony of the situation and to collect documents and reports and record official political statements from the four Arab countries whose land is occupied—Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt. The commission will spend five days in Jordan before going to Damascus, Beirut and Cairo.

In a statement upon arrival yesterday at Amman airport, Mr. Mathias deplored Israel's lack of cooperation and refusal to allow it to visit the West Bank and other occupied territories.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran today expressed Jordan's eagerness to make the mission of the U.N. team a success. Speaking with the commission at his office, Mr. Badran said that Jordan has strong ties binding it with the Palestinians whose problem is the core of the Middle East crisis. This situation has been the concern of the United Nations because of its direct and indirect effect on world stability and peace.

Also welcoming the commission, Mr. Hassan Ibrahim said Jordan will extend all facilities to the team and provide it with the necessary documents and facts that will help in its task. "This is because Jordan believes that serious action is needed to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East," he said.

Mr. Ibrahim described Israel's settlement policy as a challenge to the United Nations and a violation of international law.

Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh, who is also head of the Executive Bureau for occupied Territories Affairs presented to the commission an official report on Israel's settlement policy. He also explained the dimensions of this policy in realising the primary Zionist goal of the creation of a purely Jewish state in the Middle East. He emphasised that Jewish settlement has become the utmost concern of Israeli leaders and institutions, including the political parties. He explained the Zionist plan to drive the Arabs out of the occupied territories through economic, social, demographic, topographical and cultural measures.

On Tuesday, the commission will hear six more hours of testimony by Arabs who have lived under Israeli occupation and hear their description of Israel's settlement activity and measures taken against Arab residents.

On Wednesday, the commission will visit the town of Dier 'Alla in the Jordan Valley from where they will look across the Jordan River into an Israeli settlement area. They will also visit a Palestinian refugee camp while in Jordan.

The fact-finding team will prepare a report on the settlement situation and present it to the Security Council by July 1.

Husak starts Syria visit

DAMASCUS, May 21 (R)—President Gustav Husak of Czechoslovakia arrived today on a four-day state visit to Syria. He will have talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Middle East developments and matters of mutual interest, official sources said.

He is accompanied by Prime Minister Josef Korcak, Foreign Minister Bohuslav Choupev and Foreign Trade Minister Andrej Barak.

Tense relations ease between Libya, Sudan

KHARTOUM, May 21 (R)—A high-level Libyan delegation is to take part in Friday's celebrations here of the tenth anniversary of the revolution which brought President Jaafar Numeiri to power, the newspaper Al-Sahafa said today.

Two days later, Sudanese dissidents who crossed into the Libyan Jamahiriya after an unsuccessful attempt to topple the Sudanese president in 1976 will begin to return home under an agreement reached with the Libyan government, the newspaper added.

The arrival of the Libyan delegation, under the Secretary-General of the People's Congress, Mr. Abdul Ati Obeidi, the titular head of state, would mark a significant improvement in the tense relations between Sudan and Libya and follows a visit to Tripoli earlier this month by Sudanese Vice-President Al-Rashed Al-Tahir Bakr.

Relations between the two neighbouring countries became tense after the attempted 1976 uprising by followers of former Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq Al-Mahdi. President Numeiri accused Libya of being behind the attempt.

They worsened when President Numeiri expressed support for Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace overtures to Israel -- a move strongly opposed by Libya.

The Sudanese president has recently refrained from voicing open support for the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty although his country failed to attend an Arab foreign and finance ministers conference in Baghdad last March which imposed political and economic sanctions on Egypt.

The weekly magazine the Economist said in London on Friday that the Sudanese President was expected to announce on May 25 a reversal of his previous policy of support for Egypt in exchange for promises of Libyan aid and an end to Libyan support for his political opponents.

Al-Sahafa said 350 followers of former Prime Minister Mahdi were due to have started their repatriation on May 15. It did not give a reason for the delay.

It said Mr. Mahdi, who was reconciled with President Numeiri last year, was in Tripoli during Mr. Bakr's Libyan visit.

After strong reaction against Senate criticism

Iran plays down tension with U.S.

TEHRAN, May 21 (Agencies)—Iran's foreign minister today adopted a more conciliatory line towards the United States after his government's strong reaction yesterday against criticism from the American Senate.

Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi told his first press conference since taking up his post last month that the Senate's May 17 expression of concern about executions in Iran did not pose an American threat to this country.

"Breaking off (diplomatic) relations with America depends on America," Dr. Yazdi said.

Earlier the foreign ministry accused the U.S. of interfering in Iran's internal affairs and said Iran had told Washington to postpone the arrival of its new ambassador in Tehran until relations improved.

Dr. Yazdi, who spent 18 years in the United States before returning home with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, devoted most of the press conference to playing down

tensions with Washington. He sought to clarify one of the issues that aroused the Senate's concern -- the reported death sentence passed on the exiled Shah by Iran's revolutionary tribunals.

The original suggestion that anyone of any faith or nationality was free to kill the Shah was made earlier this month by Ayatollah Sadegh Khalkhali, who told reporters that he was the head of the tribunals. Dr. Yazdi said, "Mr. Khalkhali is not head of the revolutionary tribunals and he is not even a member of the courts. So we are sorry that the Senate issued a declaration based upon an unconfirmed report."

Dr. Yazdi said the U.S. Senate motion ran contrary to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's desire for friendly relations between the two countries. Mr. Vance, he said, had offered economic and military aid to Iran in a note delivered on May 13.

The foreign minister did not indicate what Iran's response to the offer might be, but he said the

government was still studying the mutual defence and cooperation treaty signed by Iran and the United States in 1959.

The treaty provides that "in case of aggression (against Iran), the government of the United States, in accordance with the U.S. constitution, will take up such appropriate action, including the use of armed forces, as may be mutually agreed on and as is envisaged in the joint resolution to promote peace and stability in the Middle East."

The United States pulled out its military advisers from Iran in the aftermath of the revolution and an attack on the American embassy in Tehran.

America's listening posts in northern Iran, used to monitor Soviet military activities, have been closed down and all the U.S. consulates outside Tehran have shut their doors.

Despite the foreign minister's conciliatory tone, anti-American demonstrations were staged during the day in the provincial towns of Astara, Shiraz and Tahriz. The stars and stripes was burned in Astara, the main crossing point to the Soviet Union.

The official radio also renewed its attacks on the United States. "America cannot live for one day without our oil -- it would be paralysed," the radio said.

Israeli gunners shell Rashidiyeh refugee camp

BEIRUT, May 21 (Agencies)—Israeli gunners and their Lebanese rightist allies today shelled Rashidiyeh refugee camp area near the southern port city of Tyre, the Palestine News Agency (Wafa) reported.

It said the shelling began at 5:30 p.m. (1530 GMT) and was still continuing about an hour later.

The camp houses more than 13,000 Palestinian refugees registered with the U.N. Relief and Works Agency. An estimated 10,000 low-income Lebanese also live in the camp.

The area involved in today's reported shelling has been a target of frequent bombardment. On Friday, Israeli seaborne commandos stormed ashore near Adloun a village north of Tyre, dynamiting and empty house.

In another report, Wafa said the Palestinian commando movement's Higher Military Council today took several decisions to "improve the Palestinian combat skill in facing the Zionist military operations."

The council decided to build a number of shelters in Tyre and compensate those whose houses had been destroyed as a result of Israeli raids, the agency said.

The PLO representative charged that Israel was also chasing Palestinian Arab peasants and farmers off their land by water policy restrictions.

Arabs were no longer allowed to drill for water close to land owned or inhabited by Israelis, he said.

A limit was also imposed on what could be pumped from Arab wells as part of actions to discourage any new Palestinian investment in agriculture, Dr. Kambawi continued.

"From a land-owner living on products of his land, the Palestinian farmer has been transformed into a mere wage earner working in the Israeli farms and factories under discriminating and inhuman conditions," he said.

Israel, he added, had begun a deliberate policy of annexing the economy of the occupied West Bank of Jordan.

Dr. Kambawi said the "relentless brutal machinery" of the Israelis made a mockery of claims in the name of peace at Camp David where the Cairo-Jerusalem treaty was worked out last year with the help of President Carter.

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Bonn parties fail to agree on 'non-political' president

BONN, May 21 (R)—West Germany's ruling Social Democrats failed today to win opposition support for a non-political president and right-winger Karl Carstens now looks certain to get the job on Wednesday.

The conservative Christian Democrats refused a proposal by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's party that they should drop Dr. Carstens and instead back scientist-philosopher Carl Friedrich von Weizsaecker as an all-party candidate for the largely ceremonial presidency.

With only two days to go before the ballot, the Social Democrats and their Liberal allies are now embarrassingly left without a presidential candidate for the first time in the history of the Federal

Republic, which celebrates its 30th anniversary on the day of the election.

Since the Conservatives hold an absolute majority in the 1,036-seat special federal assembly which elects the president, Dr. Carstens is now virtually sure to become head of state.

Outgoing President Walter Scheel, 59, who achieved wide popularity with his diplomatic

finesse and easy manner, decided some weeks ago not to seek re-election for a further five-year term.

Mr. Scheel, a Liberal and former foreign minister, said the Conservative majority in the federal assembly meant he was bound to lose.

Unhappy with the right-wing Dr. Carstens, the Social Democrats and Liberals tried to enlist Dr. Von Weizsaecker, who has no party affiliations, as a last-minute candidate of their own. But he turned down the offer today.

He too said he had no chance of winning unless some 14 Conservative members of the assembly today after clashes involving rival demonstrators at a courthouse in Dehra Dun, northern India.

It was the third time behind bars in less than a month for the 32-year-old son of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

The clashes started with protests against a limit of 12 persons allowed to accompany Mr. Gandhi inside the courtroom for a session of his trial on charges of fraud. About 150 Gandhi supporters outside the court staged a demonstration, setting off a fight with a rival group.

Mr. Gandhi was arrested at the same court last April 27, and spent a night in jail after he remained outside with his chanting supporters instead of appearing at his trial.

Mr. Gandhi's third visit to prison, again with several hundred followers, came on May 6 to 8 at the Lucknow city jail. It was for defying a ban on street gatherings outside the state headquarters of the youth wing of his mother's opposition party.

Mr. Gandhi is currently on trial on at least five criminal and contempt cases. He contends that the cases are political and makes his court appearances accompanied by groups of "Husky" demonstrating supporters.

Sanjay Gandhi again arrested

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PLO urges monitoring economic conditions in occupied territories

MANILA, May 21 (R)—The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) suggested today that United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim be called on to set up facilities to monitor economic conditions in Israeli-occupied Arab territory.

The appeal was made by Dr. Walid Kamhawi, President of the Palestine National Fund and leader of a PLO observer delegation to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) here.

He coupled it with a strong attack on Israel's economic rule in the territories it captured in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

"We would like to suggest that one of the resolutions of this conference should request the secretary-general to conduct studies...to monitor and evaluate conditions related to trade and development in the occupied territories of Palestine," Dr. Kamhawi said.

Accusing Israel of flagrant violations of international conventions, Dr. Kamhawi said that by the end of 1978, Israel had set up 68 settlements in the occupied Arab territories and had taken over by force 150,000 hectares of premium land in the occupied West Bank alone.

The PLO representative charged that Israel was also chasing Palestinian Arab peasants and farmers off their land by water policy restrictions.

Arabs were no longer allowed to drill for water close to land owned or inhabited by Israelis, he said.

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New French ambassador arrives

AMMAN, May 21 (JNA) -- The new French ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Claude Harel, arrived here yesterday to take up his post succeeding Mr. Dominique Charpy who was transferred to a post at the French Foreign Ministry.

Upon arrival here Mr. Harel lauded the strong ties between France and Jordan and expressed the hope that he would be able to contribute to further strengthening these relations.

Princess Basma opens home for elderly

ZARQA, May 21 (JNA) -- Her Highness Princess Basma today paid a visit to Zarqa during which she opened the home for the elderly of the orthodox charity institution.

The Princess inspected the sections of the home, which at present accommodates twenty-five elderly people, and contributed JD 1,000 to it from the Queen Alia fund.



His Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Her Highness Princess Sarvath Sunday had their first baby boy whom they have named Rashid. An announcement by the Royal Court said both the princess and her baby are in good health.

Zahrar St. opens for traffic

AMMAN, May 21 (JNA) -- Vehicles are now allowed to use Zahrar street which runs between the third and fifth circles on Jabal Amman including the stretch which runs in front of Zahrar Palace, according to an announcement by Interior Minister Suleiman Arar.

The new measure was taken upon an initiative by Queen Mother Zein Al Shara' in view of traffic congestion along Jabal Amman streets due to the closure of the Civil Defence Street. The announcement said.

Arab health council to move HQ to Tunis

AMMAN, May 21 (JNA) -- Arab health ministers have decided to transfer their council headquarters from Cairo to Tunis and to suspend Egypt's membership in the council, Minister of Health Abdul Ra'ouf Rawabdeh said here yesterday.

He said the ministers also decided to give immediate technical aid to Lebanon, Mauritania and the Palestine Red Crescent Society; and to recommend to the World Health Organisation (WHO) to transfer its regional offices from Alexandria to any other state in the region, adding that Jordan is willing to host the regional office.

Speaking upon return from Geneva where he attended the early part of the WHO meetings, Mr. Rawabdeh said he discussed with the director of the world organisation a number of projects to be carried out by WHO in Jordan over the next two years, particularly in the fields of nuclear medicine, radio therapy, nursing and the fighting of malaria.

He said the Jordanian delegation attending the conference will return to Amman this week.

King addresses army division

AMMAN, May 21 (JNA) -- His Majesty King Hussein told army units of the third royal armoured division today that Jordan along with the rest of the Arab nation is facing great challenges and dangers, "but with determination, faith and confidence in ourselves, we can overcome all difficulties."

Addressing troops who took part in an overnight manoeuvre with live ammunition, King Hussein said "We have confidence in our victory, and we will defend this soil so that our future generations can live free in their land."

"The critical situation we are passing through calls for further cohesion and unity among our ranks and urges us to build up and develop our strength as best we can so as to ensure the restoration of Jerusalem and the rest of occupied Arab land to its legitimate owners," the King said.

The Jordanian Royal Air Force took part in the manoeuvres which ended this morning. Attending the manoeuvres with the King were the commander in chief of the Jordanian armed forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, the chief of staff and high ranking army officers.

Jordanian, Saudi aviation heads meet

AMMAN, May 21 (JNA) -- Ways of strengthening cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Jordan in civil aviation were discussed here today between the Director General of the Civil Aviation Directorate Sharif Ghazi Rakan and the visiting director of Saudi Arabian civil aviation, Sheikh Abdul Al Mahdi.

Sharif Ghazi briefed the Saudi official on the activities of the directorate and the programmes of the civil aviation technical institute.

Upon arrival here yesterday for a three-day visit and talks, Sheikh Al Mahdi said he will explore the possibility of dispatching a number of Saudi Arabia civil aviation officials to receive training at the institute.

Environmental chemistry seminar opens at U of J

AMMAN, May 21 (JNA) -- A two-day seminar on environmental chemistry opened at the University of Jordan today. The seminar, organised by the executive council of the environmental chemistry research project for the Arab world, the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, will review research work on environmental pollution and ways to deal with it.

Delivering the main address at the seminar, Yarmouk University President Dr. Adnan Badran stressed the importance of environmental studies which, he said, help to find solutions to pollution problems in the Arab World which has recently witnessed an enormous population growth.

He urged the participants to work out necessary research plan to meet the requirements of environmental education.

Taking part in the seminar are delegates from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Tunisia, Algeria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and the Yemen Arab Republic.

Police chief announces arrest of thieves

AMMAN, May 21 (JNA) -- Chief of Amman's Police, Lt. Col. Yousef Al Gharaybeh today held a press conference at the police directorate building during which he announced that four thieves responsible for various thefts during the past three months have recently been arrested.

The thieves, who have earned out sixty thefts, stole articles ranging from jewelry, money, watches, radios and recorders to houses, cars, the director said.

In conclusion, the director called on the citizens to cooperate with the police to maintain security.

Arab industry ministers alter development centre's role

AMMAN, May 21 (JNA) -- Arab ministers of industry have decided to transform the Arab League industrial development centre into a specialised organisation along the same lines as the Arab Labour Organisation for Agricultural Development, Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Nijmeddin Dajani said here this weekend upon return from the ministers' meetings in Tunis.

He said the ministers have signed an agreement to this effect and decided on Tunis as the temporary venue for the new organisation's headquarters.

During the meeting, the ministers representing 19 Arab states, also decided to suspend Egypt's membership in the new organisation.

TODAY'S WEATHER

The weather will be fair with northwesterly moderate winds. Aqaba winds will be northwesterly moderate with calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	12	22
Aqaba	18	30
Deserts	10	28
Jordan Valley	17	27

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WHAT'S GOING ON

Photo Exhibit

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibit of photos on Provence, which is open during regular hours.

Art Exhibit

The British Council presents an exhibition of paintings and sculpture by Aziz Amoura and Quram Nimni. The exhibit is open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. and ends today.

Fine Arts Week

Mr. Rafik Lahham is lecturing on the history of Jordanian art at the Jordanian Artists' Association. The exhibition of works by Jordanian artists is on display in the same place.

Art Exhibit

The Circassian School presents an exhibit of paintings by its students. The school is located on the road that leads to the Orthodox Club.

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New flat in Um Uzainah area. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, large sitting room, dining room.

Contact telephone: 41567.

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Please call 77112, 8:00 a.m. - 2 p.m. 44028 after 2:00 p.m.

SYNCO

Requires English typist/shorthand secretary. Arabic not essential.

Please call 38195 or 25995 for appointment.

HAWAII INN HOTEL

Has the following vacancies:
— Waiter.
— Cook
Should have good experience.

Contact the Manager, Mr. WEISS, Tel. 42623 or 42395.

Obstacle course

THE ARRIVAL in Amman of the U.N. settlements investigating team has a special significance for Jordan.

It was at the end of a Jordanian-instigated Security Council debate earlier this year on Israeli practices in the occupied territories that the commission was created with the mandate to come to the area and investigate these practices first-hand.

Not surprisingly, Israel has declined to cooperate with the commission in any way, and the closest the team members will be able to come actually to inspecting the subject of their inquiry will be a glimpse across the Jordan river at the lights of new Jewish settlements on the other side.

It is worthwhile remembering at this stage the wording of the U.N. resolution (number 446) which created the commission, which had as its premise that "the policy and practice of Israel in establishing settlements in the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967 have no legal validity and constitute a serious obstacle to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace." The resolution also called attention to Israel's failure to abide by previous Security Council resolutions or to adhere to the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention on the occupation of territory by force. No member of the Security Council voted against Resolution 446, although the United States, Britain and Norway abstained.

Not only has Israel defied the consensus of the U.N. body, but this past weekend it has written to the president of the Security Council accusing the sponsor of the resolution (Jordan) of trying to "subvert the ongoing peace process" and claiming that "the commission is calculated to place obstacles in the way of the only realistic and promising approach to peace...and in particular to disrupt the delicate negotiations that are about to begin."

To Israel, of course, truth is always an obstacle, and nothing would be more damaging to Israel's "secure" place in the world than if the truth became universally known about the extent of the West Bank and other settlements, and the reality of life under Israeli occupation.

The commission must get at that truth, even in the absence of Israeli cooperation. No country has been more assiduous than Jordan in documenting the gravity of Israeli actions in the occupied territories, so the commission's stay here is bound to be fruitful. And, despite Israeli travel bans on West Bank mayors and other key figures wishing to testify, the commission will find no shortage here of senior and experienced Palestinians from whom to take testimony.

That testimony, and the commission's report, will join the mountain of evidence already available to the world community about the true nature of Israeli aggression and repression in the occupied territories. That, combined with Israel's arrogant flouting of yet another Security Council resolution, should leave no further room for doubt about who is the real obstacle to peace in the Middle East.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

COMMENTING ON the negotiations on self-rule Gaza and the West Bank, AL RA'I Monday says that any progress achieved at these negotiations will only serve Israeli ambitions in the occupied Arab territories.

The paper says that while the Israeli side to the negotiations will be working according to an integrated plan drawn up by the Zionist movement a long time ago—even before Mr. Begin came to power—involving the isolation of Egypt from the Arab nation and giving Israel a free hand to dispose of the occupied territories as it wishes the Egyptian delegation will be going to the negotiations "empty-handed."

What annoys Mr. Sadat, the paper says, is Mr. Begin's affirmation that the agreement with Egypt is a separate deal, and therefore has no relationship to any other agreement which Israel might reach with any other Arab party.

Israel the paper notes, has threatened to unilaterally apply its autonomy plans to Gaza and the West Bank should Sadat not submit to its conditions.

Seeing as Israel stepped up its settlement plans following Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, the paper wonders whether the "road to autonomy negotiations in Al Arish has become clear" as a result of Sadat's submission to Israel's conditions.

AL DUSTOUR lashes out at the United States for not wanting to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation on the future of the Palestinians.

The most peculiar thing about the U.S. position, the paper says, is that it is an exact reflection of the Israeli viewpoint towards the PLO.

Stressing that the U.S. has absolutely no independent reason to refrain from entering into a dialogue with the PLO, the paper states that the only explanation for the behaviour of the U.S. is that it is still the "prisoner" of the Israeli straightjacket which Tel Aviv has forced Washington into since 1948.

The paper further sees a paradox in the U.S. position which, while recognising the Palestinian issue as the key to the Middle East problem, refuses to discuss such a settlement with the PLO, "the legitimate party qualified to discuss the solution."

Why does the United States ask the Palestinians to recognise Israel's right to exist as a precondition for starting a dialogue with the PLO, and does not at the same time invite Israel to recognise the Palestinian's right to self-determination? The paper believes that the two conditions should be linked.

The U.S. will not do this, simply because it will never be an impartial mediator in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the paper says.

The Palestinians, who doubted the impartiality of the U.S. "partnership" in the Camp David agreements, still have their doubts concerning the U.S. position vis-a-vis the autonomy negotiations.

The history of U.S.-Palestinian relations does not encourage the Palestinians to trust U.S. promises. The problem is the credibility gap between the United States and the Palestinians, not merely the inability to get a dialogue going, the paper concludes.

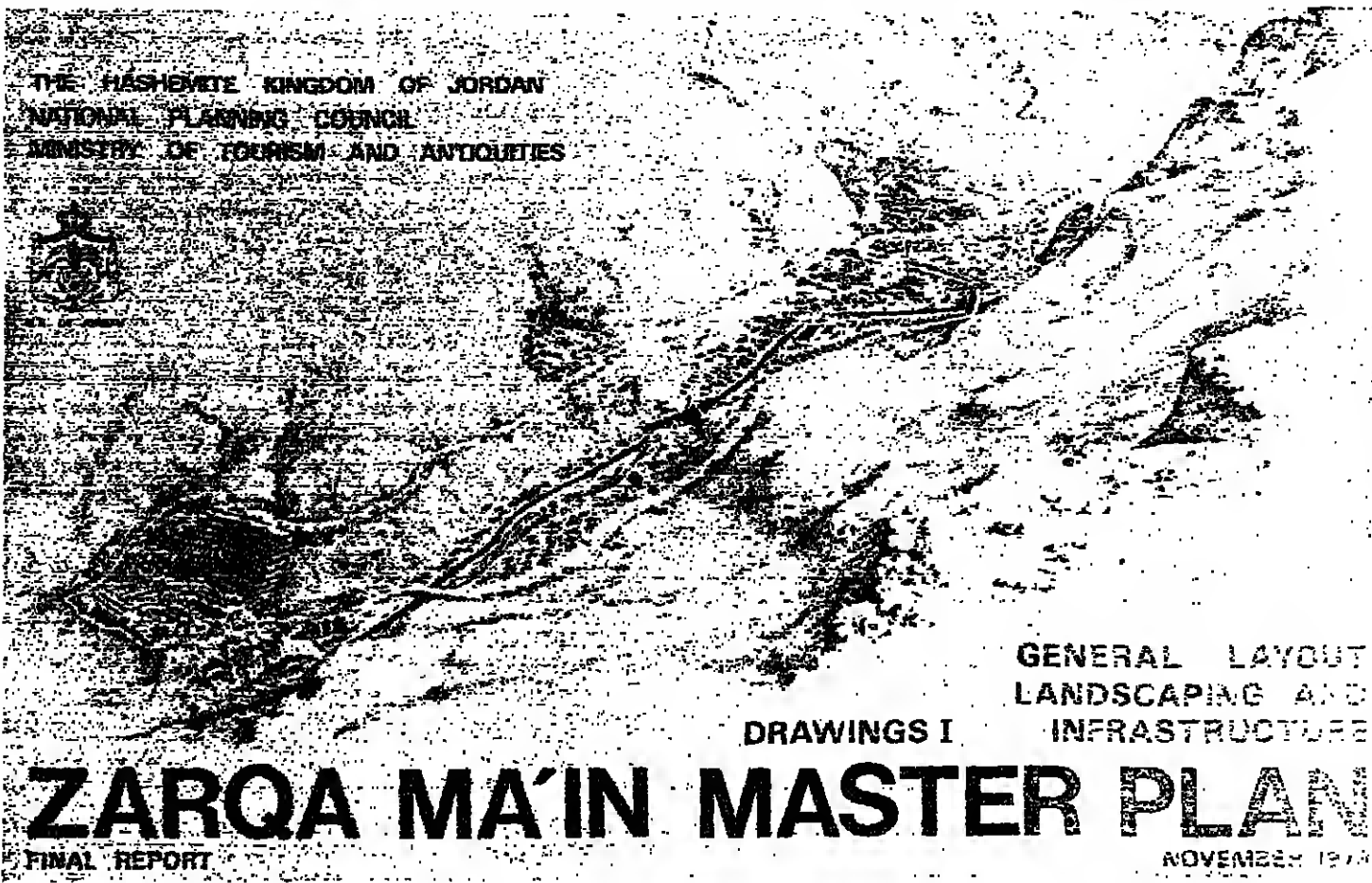
30 مايو 1979

2.5 m. company set up to develop first spa in Mideast

On Sunday, a private meeting at Ma'een was held to discuss the formation of a company to develop the first health spa in the area.

The company will be a partnership between the private sector and the government. It will be responsible for the development of the Ma'een hot springs area, which is located about 10 km. from Amman.

The company is expected to start work on the development of the Ma'een hot springs area within a few months. The project is expected to be completed within two years.



ZARQA MA'IN MASTER PLAN

The area with the Dead Sea. He said that the government will rent the land to the prospective company for a period of not less than 30 years. The company will also pay a small fee for the use of the water. He estimated that the project will be very successful financially.

He pointed out that because of the spa will be unique in the area, it will attract a large number of foreign visitors. The hot springs at Zarqa Ma'een are reputed to have been a favourite recreational spot for King Herod. The foundations of a palace he built to the south of the valley that contains the springs can be visited by taking a 20 kilometre side trip off the King's Highway south of Madaba. This is also believed to be the place where John the Baptist had his head chopped off by King Herod.

According to Mr. Shuman, the government is planning to set up two more spas. One will be at Zarqa on the Dead Sea, not far from the first site (a road is being built to it now) and the second will be at Mukhaibet, at the extreme northern end of the Jordan Valley. A master plan is ready for the Mukhaibet spa.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	306.00/308.00
U.K. sterling	628.00/632.00
West German mark	159.20/160.20
Swiss franc	175.80/176.90
French franc	68.90/69.50
Italian lire	35.70/35.90
Japanese yen	159.50/160.40
Dutch guilder	146.30/147.20
Swedish crown	69.60/70.00

U.S. firm wins cement plant engineering contract

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, May 22 (AP) — A U.S. engineering firm has won a contract to design and construct a new cement plant in the southern region of Jordan.

The contract, valued at \$10 million, was awarded to the firm by the Jordanian government. The plant is expected to be completed within two years.

The plant will produce 1.5 million tons of cement per year. It is expected to be one of the largest cement plants in the region.

Officials declined to reveal the name of the U.S. firm that won the contract. They said that the firm is a well-known engineering company.

The plant is located in the southern region of Jordan, near the border with Saudi Arabia. It is expected to be one of the largest cement plants in the region.

The plant is expected to be one of the largest cement plants in the region. It is expected to be completed within two years.

The existing cement plant at Fuhais has a capacity of about 500,000 tons per year. The expansion project now underway will add two new kilns (the fifth and sixth) with a capacity of 2,000 tons per day each, or an additional 1.5 million tons per year.

According to officials of the Jordan Cement Factories Company, demand will outstrip supply even when the Fuhais expansion project is completed in 1982, requiring the added production from Rashtadya. The new plant in the south is expected to meet demand in the southern half of the country, including the booming Ajlun region, with the bulk of its output being exported abroad.

Jordan now consumes about 500,000 tons of cement per year, compared to less than 300,000 tons in 1970.

The Rashtadya cement project is also noteworthy for two other reasons. First, it is a good example of a scheme that exploits some of Jordan's mineral resources to establish export-oriented and import-substituting industries. This is the fundamental philosophy of the current five-year plan.

Second, it is one of the few large-scale projects that has started to be implemented in the remote provincial areas of the country. As such, it also represents a key concept in Jordan's socio-economic development drive—the establishment of economic nodes of activity in remote areas around which social services and smaller scale industrial and service industries can gravitate and develop.

In the long run, this will provide socio-economic attractions that will allow rural regions to develop more quickly, thereby also allowing the crowded Amman-Zarqa region to play a less disproportionate role in the country's economic life.

Other examples of such large provincial schemes are the Jordan Valley development project, the Dead Sea potash plant now being built, the Hasa phosphate mines being expanded, the Aquaba chemical fertilizer industry now being built, the proposed Qutran power station and the Ma'an glass factory being established.

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Shares Traded	High	Low	Close
Jordan Lime & Silica Co. Ltd.	JD 5.00	35	4.370	4.350	4.370
Jordan Dairy Co.	JD 1.00	20	1.420	1.400	1.440
Jordan Gulf Bank	JD 1.00	500	1.010	1.010	1.010
Housing Bank	JD 1.00	25	1.170	1.170	1.170
Arab Bank	JD 1.00	50	90.000	90.000	90.000
Jordan Insurance	JD 1.00	10	10.000	10.000	10.000
Dar Al Dawainvesting	JD 1.00	300	2.250	2.250	2.250
Arab International H.F.B.	JD 1.00	100	7.00	7.00	7.00
Arab Pharmaceutical	JD 1.00	10	22.650	22.650	22.650
Arab Aluminium	JD 1.00	50	8.00	8.00	8.00
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1.00	455	1.380	1.380	1.380
The Real Estate Financing Corporation	JD 1.00	90	2.250	2.250	2.250
Jordan Cement	JD 1.00	22	15.300	15.300	15.300
Jordan Ceramics	JD 1.00	200	8.30	8.30	8.30
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1.00	1000	6.30	6.30	6.30
Garage Owners Union	JD 1.00	250	5.300	5.300	5.300
Jordan Refinery	JD 5.00	1524	6.700	6.700	6.700

Value of total volume traded, Monday, May 21: JD 26,794
Total number of shares traded: 9,375

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Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities
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competition for children's drawings and
about regions of archaeological and
interest in Jordan.
AGE: 5 - 12 years old.
DATE of submission:
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PRIZES: 10 valuable
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solation prizes.

Netherlands, Argentina to meet again

BERNE, May 21 (R)—The quiet city of Berne, with its meandering river and tree-lined streets, is a sharp contrast to the bustling city of Buenos Aires, but tomorrow evening the Netherlands and Argentina meet here for a re-run of the World Soccer Cup final. Argentina, urged on by their frenetic fans in the River Plate Stadium last year, defeated the Netherlands 3-1 and, for the first time since that momentous night, manager Cesar Menotti is bringing his world champions into Europe. After the game against the Netherlands to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the International Football Federation (FIFA), Argentina play Italy, Ireland and Scotland. Argentina beat Bulgaria 2-1 in Buenos Aires last month but the match against the Netherlands will be only their second outing this year. The Netherlands, on the other hand, have been heavily involved in the European championship, leading Group Four which also includes Poland, East Germany, Switzerland and Iceland. They should be in sharper form and capable of gaining revenge for their World Cup defeat. The Netherlands, despite losing 2-1 to Poland earlier this month, have produced impressive form in their European Championship matches, and their performance here last October will be long remembered by the Swiss. At one stage, thanks to a brilliant equaliser by Markus Tanner, Switzerland had looked capable of pulling off a shock result, but the smooth fluid skills of the Dutch took over, with Ernie Brandts and Ruud Geels sealing a 3-1 victory. Mario Kempes, Argentina's two-goal World Cup hero, and Daniel Bertoni are due to fly in from Spain today.

World Cricket Cup qualifying to begin

LONDON, May 21 (R)—One of the more improbable events of the 1979 sporting calendar, the World Cricket Cup qualifying competition, starts in the English midlands tomorrow. In an age when the high-pressure world of international sport has turned the amateur athlete into something of a relic, it will prove that he does still exist and is daunted neither by distance nor financial hardship. More than 200 players from 14 countries—all five continents will be represented—are in England for the event, having in most cases contributed out of their own pockets to compete and in Fiji's case having travelled 19,300 kilometres. The two teams who qualify for next month's finals, also in England, are the only ones who can hope to gain any sort of remuneration. For the others, experience will be the sole reward. Sri Lanka and Bermuda are the only countries in the qualifying event where cricket is more than a "minor sport". In many cases immigrants from the major cricketing nations will form the backbone of the teams. Canada have a large West Indian contingent and the United

States have only two native-born Americans in their side and are captained by an Indian, 44-year-old Anil Lashkari. In Argentina, the game was pioneered by British railway engineers, and players from Britain give their side some useful experience. Brian Ward, who once played for Essex in the English County Championship and now lives in Buenos Aires, is their vice-captain. Sri Lanka are an obvious choice to become one of the two qualifiers, although they have jeopardised their chances by refusing to play Israel in Group Three, which also includes a highly competent side from the Netherlands. Bermuda look powerful challengers to East Africa, who played in the inaugural World Cup finals four years ago, while Denmark, who have over 2,000 cricketers, and Bangladesh, who once contributed players to the Pakistan national side, may emerge as the top teams in Group two. Three five-team groups make up the qualifying event. The winners of each plus the most successful side among the others will get through to the semi-finals on June 6. The winning semi-finalists will then qualify for the main competition, joining the six major cricketing nations—Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan and the West Indies.

S. Korean retains WBC flyweight title

SEOUL, May 21 (R)—Park Chan Hee of South Korea retained his World Boxing Council (WBC) flyweight title when he beat Tsutomu Igarashi of Japan on a unanimous points decision here yesterday. Park, making his first defence of the title he won on points from Miguel Canto of Mexico two months ago, started uncertainly. But he took control of the fight from the tenth round, and in the 11th and 14th had Igarashi staggering from a hail of punches. Park said he was still suffering from a hand injury sustained in the Canto fight, and in the early rounds the Japanese challenger benefited from his greater height and reach to keep out of Park's range. Referee Dick Young of the United States scored Park the winner by 150 points to 134, as did Korean judge Chung Chung Woon 150-142 and Japanese judge Seichi Uchida



150-141. For the unbeaten 23-year-old Park, four years younger than his Japanese opponent, it was his 11th victory since turning professional two years ago.

Can Starkey repeat wins at Derby, Oaks?

LONDON, May 21 (R)—Greville Starkey, the jockey who ran up a staggering series of victories in Britain's top races last season, has bright prospects of a second successive Derby and Oaks Double at Epsom next month. The 40-year-old maestro's mount in the Derby on June 6, Ela-Mana-Mou, is favourite at 5 to 1 in current lists. In the Oaks three days later, he rides another strongly-fancied runner, Rimosa's Pet. Ela-Mana-Mou, rated second among English-trained two-year-olds last year in the official scale of merit, the Free Handicap, ran a fine Derby trial in his only race to date this season. Quickening impressively in the manner of a very good horse, he romped home by four lengths in the nine furlongs Heath Stakes at New Market in mid-April. Rimosa's Pet did not make a startling impact as a two-year-old, but two excellent performances this season showed that she has come on the right way. After overcoming all sorts of trouble in running to win at Epsom last month, she cruised away with the Musidora Stakes at York last week. Bookmakers immediately slashed the odds against her for the Oaks. Taking Derby and Oaks mounts as a pair, no jockey has a better chance than Starkey of winning two Epsom classics. Starkey won the Derby last year on Shirley Heights and the Oaks on Fair Salina, and for good measure went on to score a similar double in the Irish Classics on the same two horses. No-one had ever ridden the winners of these four classic races in the same year before. The gaunt-faced genius seemed to have found the Midas touch. He also won the Champion Stakes on Swiss Maid, the Ascot Gold Cup on Shangamuzo, the Rich Ayr Gold Cup Handicap on Vagley Great and five important two-year-old races on the flying filly Devon Ditty. He rode a total of 107 winners during the season—the first time he had topped the century mark in more than 20 years at the riding

game. For Starkey, who had rarely hit the headlines before 1978, it must have seemed like the wildest of dreams come true. Throughout his career he had been known as a sound and successful jockey, but somehow had only infrequently got big-race rides of sufficient merit to crown his riding ability with victory. Before last year's triumphant parade, the highlights of his career had been Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe victory on Star Appeal in 1975, the Ascot Gold Cup on Fighting Charlie in 1966 and the Epsom Oaks on Homebound Bound in 1964. In the light of the dashing horsemanship he showed last season, it is astonishing that many more good chances did not come his way earlier. He was the undisputed Jockey of the Year in 1978 not only for his victories but for the hairbreadth judgment he demonstrated in tight finishes. Eminent American Willie Shoemaker, who was second in the Derby on Hawaiian Sound, and French rider Freddy Head on runner-up Dancing Maid in the Oaks, must both have been feeling sure of victory when Starkey came flying through to snare the classics by a head and a short head respectively. It was the same story in the Irish Derby, with Starkey getting up in the last few strides to win by a head and a neck from Irishman Christy Roche on Exdirectory and Shoemaker on Hawaiian Sound. Starkey completed the classic four-timer just as dramatically, but in a much less satisfying manner, when Fair Salina was awarded the Irish Oaks after finishing second to Irish-trained Sorbus. It must have been a touch-and-go decision, for it took the stewards more than 20 minutes to decide to disqualify Sorbus, whom Starkey maintained had "taken my ground." Starkey is a man of minimalist mien which has not been lightened by the sweet impact of success. He is tall for a jockey—around 5 feet 7 inches—and with a comparatively heavy riding weight of 11-7 pounds, he has become better acquainted with sauna-baths than one would wish to be an accustomed to living on meals of sparrow-like proportions. His regime which predisposes to a feral countenance, but has the hard discipline has at last been amply rewarded.

European Weightlifting Championship

VIENNA, May 21 (R)—Anton Kodjabashev of Bulgaria yesterday equalled the world record for the combined snatch and lift in the bantamweight division of the European Weightlifting Championship in Yama, Bulgaria. His record lift was 267.5 kgs. (590 lbs.). Earlier, Tadeusz Bembonczak of Poland, who came second overall, set a new European snatch record when he lifted 118 kgs. on his extra fourth attempt. The old record of 117 kgs. was held by Nourikyan of Bulgaria. Kodjabashev managed 115 kgs. in the snatch on his third try, but lost 117.5 kgs. in the clean and jerk to take the gold medal.

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is Stief from Giessen, West Germany looked into nourishing the plum is, analysing its vitamin C the various stages of ripeness, storage and processing places. Thomas's school in Giessen bears Liebig (discoverer of chloroform and creator of as we know it today), and Thomas appropriately in national research competition. (DaD photo)

FOR TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1979

OUR DAILY PROSCOPE

Carroll Righter Institute

21 to Apr. 19) Ideal day to get in touch a distance for the information you need in progress. Think constructively.
pr. 20 to May 20) You made good plans to with your obligations recently, and this is a tend to them.
ay 21 to June 21) Try to please associates ace in your line of endeavor. You can gain idence by right actions.
DREN (June 22 to July 21) Use more ad- id where work is concerned and impress id confrontations by using tact.
to Aug. 21) Begin the day in logical man- p obstacles in the path of progress. Use in dealing with others.
22 to Sept. 22) Find the right people who with some important project you are cur- on. Be sure of what you are doing.
23 to Oct. 22) Communicate well with vance in career matters. Some revision work is concerned is wise.
ct. 23 to Nov. 21) Express your capability your job and gain the benefits. You can avor of a higher-up now.
US (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have talents ous mind that you want to put in opera- out further delay.
i (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be more cognizant of ur family and try to help them to the best. Avoid one who imposes on you.
(Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have increased id your intuitive faculties are working ex- d you can accomplish a great deal today.
20 to Mar. 20) Raise the level of your con- you can command more abundance in the e good ideas that need expression.

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As 2-day conference begins

IEA appeals to U.S. to reduce oil imports

PARIS, May 21 (R) — The International Energy Agency (IEA) opened a two-day conference on energy-saving measures today with an appeal to the United States to cut oil imports.

The European Economic Community (EEC) Energy Commissioner, Guido Brunner, told the group of 20 Western industrial nations: "The waste society, based on surplus availability of cheap energy, has come to an end."

"In the medium and long term, neither the world economy as a whole nor the international monetary system will be in a position to sustain American oil imports of the present magnitude."

Kuwait yesterday followed Iran and the United Arab Emirates in boosting the price of its crude by \$5.60 to \$16.40 a barrel, bringing the increase to 34 per cent since the end of last year.

The rise has been provoked partly by the revolution in Iran, where the new government has said it will hold production below previous levels. Dr. Brunner said there would be scarcity of oil as long as Iran's production was down.

He said joint efforts to reduce oil imports had not been successful because the United States was not in a position to cut its own imports.

"If Congress proves unable to enact an emergency legislation of its own, the American people might read the situation wrongly and wish to continue spending energy at the present rate that is the highest in its history and about double the European per capita consumption," Dr. Brunner said.

IEA Executive Director Ulf Lantze told reporters yesterday

that oil supplies were estimated to be about four per cent below anticipated demand and said the outlook for the next 18 months was very serious.

The IEA decided two months ago to reduce demand for oil by two million barrels a day, equal to five per cent of total IEA consumption.

But Dr. Lantze said this may not be enough. "Having looked at action taken so far by member states, we have a feeling that still more will have to be done," he said.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) boosted the price of oil by a further nine per cent from April 1, bringing the total increase in official OPEC prices to 14.5 per cent since the beginning of the year. The cost of about a third of OPEC production has risen considerably more than this.

And Iran has told Japanese traders that it is cutting long-term direct supply contracts by 15 per cent.

The shortages have resulted in official or de facto rationing in many parts of the U.S., Ireland, Sweden, New Zealand and Turkey. And yesterday the chairman of Exxon Corporation, America's largest oil company, said it might take the United States ten to 20 years to catch up with its demand for energy.

The IEA is likely to be asked to help ease irregularities in supply to different countries, and delegates at the Paris conference will also discuss how to switch to alter-

native energy sources.

The agency, set up after the 1973 oil crisis, is a mutual-help organisation. It faces the problem of renewed debate on the future and dangers of nuclear power following the Three Mile Island nuclear accident in the United States.

And last week the state government of Lower Saxony in West Germany turned down plans to build the world's biggest commercial nuclear reprocessing plant. The government said the public had too many misgivings about the plant.

On Friday a U.S. federal court jury awarded \$10.5 million in damages to the family of a plutonium-contaminated nuclear worker in a landmark legal decision that could have major repercussions on the development of atomic power in the United States.

Despite the rising price of oil, Mr. Richard Genocchio, head of the EEC's energy policy division, has said that coal production in Western Europe is continuing to decline. He told a conference in London that the main task now was to save energy rather than expand supply.

Last week, Europe's search for nuclear energy was given a mild boost when the foundation stone was laid for the Joint-European Torus (JET) project at Culham, west of London.

JET is designed to produce energy through the controlled use of nuclear fusion. The experimental project is expected to become operational by 1983.

China, Vietnam begin exchange of prisoners

PEKING, May 21 (R) — China freed 120 Vietnamese prisoners in exchange for 43 Chinese today in the first releases since the month-long Sino-Vietnamese war earlier this year. The New China News Agency (NCNA) said that all those exchanged today were wounded or sick.

When the 120 freed from China crossed the border at the Friendship Pass just after noon (0400 GMT), "their packs and personal belongings were seized and thrown by Vietnamese security personnel," it added.

The agency said the handover began this morning when Red Cross delegations from each country met at the zero kilometre boundary marker to exchange name-lists. China first freed the Vietnamese, who walked or were carried on stretchers across the frontier. The Vietnamese Red Cross signed a receipt and then the 43 Chinese were handed over.

China had said it was holding about 1,600 prisoners and announced on May 11 it would begin freeing them in groups, even if Hanoi did not reciprocate. Vietnam had said it was holding about 240 Chinese before today's exchange.

The Chinese news agency said the handover was witnessed by Dominique Borel, representing the International Committee of the Red Cross.

'Up to 40,000' Ugandans have fled into Sudan

KHARTOUM, May 21 (R) — Up to 40,000 Ugandans—most of them women, children and old people—have fled into southern Sudan from fighting that has followed the overthrow of President Idi Amin, a Sudanese Catholic relief worker said yesterday.

The influx is still going on and at least 120 Ugandans are crossing the border every day, he told reporters.

The relief worker is employed by Sudanaid, a Catholic charity organisation, and recently

returned from the south. He spoke at a press conference attended by Sudan's Refugee Commissioner Abdul Rahman Ahmad Al-Bashir.

About 35,000 Ugandan refugees have registered with Sudanese police, but the actual number who have crossed the border is thought to be much larger, the Sudanaid worker said.

Most of the refugees are being housed in schools and mission buildings. The Sudanese Government and several charitable organisations are making great efforts to care for them, and for the estimated 25,000 head of cattle they have brought with them, he said.

The influx has also brought to south Sudan some Sudanese who had been refugees in Uganda and have now rejoined their families,

and a number of Somalis and Yemenis, the refugee commissioner said.

The non-Ugandan foreigners have not been classed as refugees, he said.

Tough year ahead

Meanwhile, in the Tanzanian capital, the government-owned Tanzania Daily News today warned of a tough year ahead on the economic front due to the cost of the war which overthrew Amin.

An editorial said that imports would be slashed while public and private institutions would have to cut spending drastically.

The newspaper added: "The more than five months' campaign to push out Amin's troops and punish the dictator has obviously

placed an enormous burden on the national economy already inundated by the current international economic order and factors beyond our control."

The Daily News said a lot of adjustments would be necessary to balance the June budget and added: "The first axe will inevitably fall on imports which have to be minimised in view of the diminished foreign exchange reserves."

"Industries will be most hard hit to the extent that in places factories may be forced to operate below capacity."

Western economists estimate that the fight against the Amin regime by Tanzanian and Ugandan exile forces cost the Dar es Salaam Government \$1 million a day.

Romanian president to begin 5-day Spain visit

MADRID, May 21 (R) — The first visit by a communist head to Spain begins today with the arrival of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Five-day official visit is seen here as an example of newly-democratic Spain's growing links with Eastern bloc countries since the death of right-wing dictator General Franco in 1975.

President Ceausescu will have talks with King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez and is expected to discuss next year's European Security and Cooperation Conference to be held in Madrid, informed sources said.

The Romanian president was quoted in the Madrid daily newspaper El Pais last week as saying the conference should give top priority to disarmament.

The 61-year-old president, who has taken an independent line from Moscow on several major issues, was reported to have said that concrete measures should be adopted to reduce military spending, and that foreign troops stationed in other countries should be withdrawn and their bases dismantled.

Official Spanish sources said the visit is also aimed at expanding already rapidly growing trade links between the two countries.

Pending report on 'massacre'

France reportedly to cut off economic aid to Central African Empire

KIGALI, Rwanda, May 21 (R) — France is cutting off all economic aid to the Central African Empire until it gets a satisfactory explanation about the killing of students there last month, French Government sources said yesterday.

The sources, in Kigali for a summit meeting of French-speaking African countries, said they were satisfied the killings took place. France supplies virtually the entire budget of the empire, a former French colony.

Amnesty International, the London-based human rights organisation, said last week that 50 to 100 children protesting against compulsory school uniforms had died or been killed on April 18 in the Central African Empire capital of Bangui.

Emperor Bokassa, calling himself "Papa Bok," yesterday denied allegations that children had been massacred. He told reporters arriving for the summit: "No one massacred children. It was a case of grown-up children inspired by revolutionary ideologies."

The French Government sources said all economic and financial aid would be cut until Emperor Bokassa gave a full explanation of demonstrations which led up to the killings.

The Central African Empire's economy is kept afloat by French aid worth 20 million francs (\$4 million) a year. France has helped with the development of agriculture and industry in the fields of health and broadcasting.

French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet said last Wednesday the French Government had received conflicting reports about the alleged massacre of schoolchildren. He told the National Assembly: "If confirmed, these events would rightly provoke widespread indignation not only in France but in the whole of Africa."

The French opposition Socialist Party last week denounced "the silence of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and his government" on the reports killings. It said the silence resulted from the government's desire to retain close ties with Emperor Bokassa. President Giscard d'Estaing is here for the two-day summit meeting, which opens today.



The first commercial airship to be built in Britain for nearly 50 years, code-named AD 500, is shown at Cardington in eastern England from where it made its successful maiden flight. Designed for single pilot operation, AD 500 has a top speed of 62 knots (115 kilometres per hour) and an endurance in excess of 20 hours at 56 knots is claimed. It contains 5097 cubic metres of non-inflammable

helium and the gondola will house a crew of two and carry up to 2.5 tonnes of freight, or ten passengers. After a short period of commercial operations, the airship will be used for fishery protection, pipe and powerline inspection, freight carrying and tourist travel in Latin America, where Venezuela and Argentina have each ordered an airship. (COI photo)

Industrialised nations under 'increasing pressure' as UNCTAD begins 3rd week

MANILA, May 21 (R) — Industrialised countries will be under increasing pressure over the next week to commit themselves to importing competitive goods from the world's poorer nations.

With the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) passing its

half-way stage after two weeks of public rhetoric and backstage bargaining in Manila, delegates on all sides admit the pace of negotiations has been slow, but most believe some compromises will emerge over the next two weeks.

"Perhaps we will end without too many specifics, but the groundwork will be laid in many areas," one Western delegate said. "It is essentially an educative exercise in which all sides are learning something and recognising that the present international economic order cannot go on without some radical changes."

Developed countries, particularly the European Economic

Community, Japan and the United States, have tended to appear as the villains at this conference because of their continuing dominance over the world economy.

Developing countries have introduced a resolution warning that they may take collective action—presumably including withholding raw materials—if the industrialised countries do not do more to assure they get reasonable prices for their goods and better access to the rich markets.

Several oil producers announced new premiums this week, but a move by Latin American countries to debate rising oil prices appeared to be foundering.

Spain's Socialist Party leader 'forced' to resign

MADRID, May 21 (R) — A swing to the left in the Socialist Party, Spain's biggest opposition group, forced party leader Felipe Gonzalez to resign yesterday.

Mr. Gonzalez, 37, the second most popular political figure in the country after Centrist Premier Adolfo Suarez, had been unchallenged leader of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party (PSOE) since 1974. He announced his resignation on the last day of the party's centenary congress here.

The issue that made Mr. Gonzalez decide not to run for another term as PSOE secretary-general was the party's Marxist label. Mr. Gonzalez wanted the PSOE to drop the Marxist tag to widen its appeal to Spanish voters.

But the congress voted by two to one majority to retain the PSOE's definition as a "class, mass, Marxist, democratic and federal party."

The PSOE is the second biggest group in the Spanish parliament, with 121 seats in the main legislative chamber, the Congress, against 168 for the ruling Union of the Democratic Centre (UCD) Party.

The Socialists consolidated their position as Spain's second parliamentary force in the March 1 general elections, and went on to win power in most of the nation's major cities in municipal voting last month.

Mr. Gonzalez yesterday called on the party to approach Marxism in a critical manner and added to loud applause: "We should be Socialists before Marxist."

The four-day congress ended without a new secretary general or executive committee being elected to replace Mr. Gonzalez and his team.

Instead, the more than 1,000 delegates elected a five-man management committee of lesser officials to run the party until a special congress is held within six months.

World News Briefs

Norway, Turkey start talks on \$6m. grant

ANKARA, May 21 (R) — Norwegian Finance Minister Per Kleppe started talks with Turkish officials today on a \$6 million grant (about \$6 million) grant aid to Turkey. Mr. Kleppe, who arrived night, met Turkish Finance Minister Ziya Muezzinoglu for talks which are expected to end tomorrow. Economic sources said Norwegian grant, which is expected to be released immediately, would be important in impressing other members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) before a meeting in Paris on May 30 to decide on their definite commitment to a Western economic aid package to Turkey.

'Africa should be wary of Cuba's NAM role'

NAIROBI, May 21 (R) — The Kenyan Daily Nation newspaper today African nations should be wary of allowing Cuba to lead them in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), particularly if it assumes leadership of the group later this year. It said in an editorial: "Cuba's service to the Soviets, whether in promoting a vociferous radicalism or manning weapons in some African countries, detracts from the Cuban ability to lead the Non-Aligned Movement... But the machinery is already in motion for the summit conference this year in Havana which ensures Cuban leadership for Cuba during the three years after the conference. We do not want Cubans to express our views for us in the Non-Aligned Movement, we have enough African voices to say so."

China-USSR trade talks expected next month

PEKING, May 21 (R) — Trade talks between China and the Soviet Union for 1979, are expected to begin in Moscow next month, informed diplomatic sources said today. The sources said Sino-Soviet trade was continuing to expand, and contracts reached in 1978 included the delivery of aircraft and helicopters to China. The value of two-way trade last year was a record 338 million rubles (1 million compared with 249 million rubles in 1977 and 315 million rubles in 1976, they added. The sources said China's main exports to the Soviet Union included such non-ferrous metals as tungsten, scheelite, food, salt, textiles and consumer goods. The Soviet Union exports to China included non-ferrous metals like tungsten, manganese and nickel, timber, machinery, mining equipment and helicopters.

Mobs demonstrate against Japanese airport

NARITA, Japan, May 21 (R) — Thousands of demonstrators, led by 7,000 police in full riot gear, marked the first anniversary of the International Airport's opening yesterday by the riotous disruption of its operations and planned expansion. Some 400 people of Tokyo's newest international airport, released balloons and containing aluminium fragments intended to disrupt flights. The airport was closed to non-passengers by police. The rioters also burned old car tyres, sending up clouds of thick black smoke. The airport, 60 kilometres northeast of Tokyo, is under surveillance. But they reported no serious incidents. At least people have died and more than 8,500 have been injured during years of protest about the \$2.5 billion airport, whose opening postponed more than ten times.

Guerrilla war will continue in Rhodesia says ZANU leader

DAR ES SALAAM, May 21 (R) — Western recognition of the new government in Rhodesia would not affect the outcome of the guerrilla war there, Rhodesian guerrilla leader Robert Mugabe was quoted yesterday as saying. "Recognition by any NATO countries of the (Ian) Smith (Bishop Abel) Muzorewa regime is of no consequence to us," the Tanzanian news agency Shinhata quoted him as saying.

"The war will continue, the regime will be overthrown and we will create favourable conditions for the attainment of power by the people," he added.

Mr. Mugabe was being interviewed by the Voice of Zimbabwe Radio, which is run by his Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), the agency said.

The Shinhata report said Mr. Mugabe added that it would be foolish for Britain's new Conservative government to recognise the new administration in Rhodesia led by Bishop Muzorewa, the premier-elect after last month's election. Of such recognition, Mr. Mugabe said: "This would be in defiance of

the interests of the broad masses of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) would also be a gross violation of the decisions of the OAU (Organisation of African Unity) summit of African Unity non-aligned countries and the United Nations which condemned the illegal and the results."

Mr. Mugabe is co-leader of the Patriotic Front, the alliance which is fighting to throw the Salisbury Government. He warned that recognition of the bishop's administration by Britain would "impair negotiations with the Patriotic Front."

The British government's affairs minister spokesman House of Commons, Sir Iain Macleod, told Parliament last night that Britain had not yet decided whether to recognise Muzorewa administration. He said the speed of the economic sanctions against Rhodesia followed unilateral declaration of independence from Britain in

Thailand's 'national peril'

By Nicola Smith

BANGKOK — The recent elections in Thailand provided another round in a classic struggle between civil and military power groups where neither side can be said to be the true representative of the people.

In putting Thai elections in perspective it is difficult to avoid the temptation to write them off as non-events. They rarely involve real change and do little apparently to forward the country's political development.

Furthermore, as part of a process of continuous reshuffling of government, they seem to be one more destabilising factor in a country beset by internal and external security problems. But behind the truth of these arguments lies the fact that Thailand has so far survived quite adequately on a see-saw of civil-military power-grabbing. The question preoccupying most observers is how long this situation can last, how long before the see-saw itself topples over.

The last elections were the twelfth in a series which began with

the abolition of the absolute monarchy in 1932. They continued the Thai tradition of aspiring to political democracy under the hard reality of frequent intervention from the military — the strongest of the bureaucratic cliques.

In the last 37 years, Thailand has had thirteen constitutions, 37 cabinets, and a series of coups, the last of which brought General Kriangsak Chamanand into power as prime minister in 1977. He was the "liberal" choice of the military to replace their former nominee, the more right-wing Judge Tanin Kraivixien.

Mr. Kriangsak's relative success during his eighteen months in office (based largely on an open, active foreign policy) encouraged him and his supporters to establish his position legitimately through democratic elections.

But democracy in Thailand has its own flavour. The system eschews the two-party principle for a come-one, come-all policy. Some 36 different groups presented candidates in the last elections to fill the 301 seats in the lower house of the National

Assembly.

After voting, the party emerging with the biggest single majority was the Social Action Party which gained a total of 82 of the seats. The SAP is led by civilian lawyer, Mr. Kukrit Pramoj who has a good basis of popular support and in 1975-76 enjoyed thirteen months in office as prime minister. He was replaced by his brother Mr. Seni Pramoj who is leader of the Democrat Party.

Seni became prime minister as long ago as 1945 and his party has traditionally carried the Bangkok vote in opposition. It was one of the few surprises in the elections that their more liberal platform failed to hold them their seats in the capital. They lost all of them to a new right-wing group, the Pracharak Party, led by Mr. Samek Sundarawej which took 29 of the 32 metropolitan seats.

The importance of this shift is limited in that it holds little real challenge to Mr. Kriangsak's return as prime minister. His biggest advantage over his opponents lies in a virtual monopoly in the upper house or Senate, whose 225 members are nominated by

the King on his advice.

The present composition of the Senate is heavily weighted against the civilians as 195 of the seats are held by the military and police which would appear to have made Mr. Kriangsak's re-election a foregone conclusion.

This element of inevitability in the elections encourages an apathetic attitude to voting among the Thai population. Turnout is generally low—it reached a record high of 57.40 per cent in the February election of 1957—and interest in who will be elected is secondary as to how long the government is likely to last.

Superficially, the civil-military shuffling for power, the coups and counter-coups, the elections where results seem predictable and which everyone knows will depend on military approval, appear to suggest confusion and chaos.

A more penetrating view reveals a form of continuity where new constitutions often repeat old ones and new coups or elections return old personalities — often in search of the prestige, position and money which tend to highlight

In Thailand, new coups or elections of return old personalities from a small elite. But discontent in the countryside, a worsening insurgency problem and trouble with the neighbouring countries are changing "national peril" from a political slogan to a reality.

political status in Thailand. Underlying both of these impressions is an uneasy sense that Thailand can ill-afford such political junketing in the face of growing internal unrest.

Thailand's political system is traditionally built on the relatively simple structure of a small ruling elite and a very large agrarian sector which in the past have tended to exist almost independently of each other. But developing education and improved communications have narrowed the separation of the two sectors while double-figure inflation has widened the income gap between urban and rural areas and added to increasing discontent, especially in the countryside.

"National peril" like national economic development, is a slogan often invoked in Thai politics.

But a more penetrating view reveals a form of continuity where new constitutions often repeat old ones and new coups or elections return old personalities — often in search of the prestige, position and money which tend to highlight

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